

a first converging lens attached to said optical module, to converge the optical signal transmitted by said light emitting section and to transmit the converged optical signal to said apparatus;

a second converging lens attached to said optical module, to converge the optical signal transmitted by said apparatus and to transmit the converged optical signal to said light receiving section; and

a shielding section to optically shield light between said first converging lens and said second converging lens.

12. (previously presented) An optical communication unit according to claim 11, further comprising:

a connecting section with an optical cable unit, wherein said optical communication unit transmits and receives optical signals to and from said apparatus via said optical cable unit.

13. (previously presented) An optical communication unit according to claim 11, further comprising:

an optical filter to cut off a visual light on a light path of the optical signal from said apparatus to said light receiving section, and the optical signal from said light emitting section to said apparatus.

14. (currently amended) An optical communication unit provided between two apparatuses that perform optical communication with each other, the optical communication unit transmitting and receiving optical signals to and from and ~~to and from~~ said apparatuses, the optical communication unit comprising:

a connector ~~connected~~ being connectable to any one of said apparatuses;

a signal transmitting/receiving section including a light receiving section to transmit receive an optical signal received from said one of said apparatuses, and a light emitting section to transmit an optical signal transmitted from the other of said apparatuses to said one of said apparatuses;

~~an optical cable to transmit the optical signal to and from said light receiving section and said light emitting section; and~~

an optical module ~~to accommodate one end of said optical cable and~~ to house said signal transmitting/receiving section such that the light emitting section is connected to one of a pair of optical fiber cables to receive the optical signal from the other of said apparatuses, and

that the light receiving section is connected to the other of a pair of optical fiber cables to transmit the optical signal from said one of said apparatuses to the optical fiber, and the optical module including a first converging lens attached thereto to converge the optical signal transmitted by said light emitting section, a second converging lens attached thereto to converge the optical signal received at said light receiving section, and including at least one window to pass the optical signal from said one of said apparatuses to said light receiving section, and to pass the optical signal from said light emitting section to said one of said apparatuses.

15. (previously presented) An optical communication unit according to claim 14, wherein said optical cable has a pair of paths to transmit and receive optical signals from and to said one of said apparatuses, respectively.

16. (previously presented) An optical communication unit according to claim 15, further comprising:

a shielding section to prevent incidence of an optical signal from said light emitting section to said light receiving section.

17. (previously presented) An optical communication unit according to claim 14, further comprising:

a first converging lens to converge an optical signal from said one of said apparatuses and transmit the optical signal into said optical cable; and

a second converging lens to converge an optical signal transmitted through said optical cable and transmit the optical signal to said one of said apparatuses.

18. (previously presented) An optical communication unit according to claim 14, wherein said light receiving section has a first modulating/demodulating section to receive an optical signal transmitted from said one of said apparatuses and convert the optical signal to an electric signal, and also to demodulate said electric signal to an optical signal and transmit the optical signal into said optical cable; and

said light emitting section has a second modulating/demodulating section to receive the optical signal transferred through said optical cable and to convert the optical signal to an electric signal, and also to demodulate said electric signal to an optical signal and transmit the optical signal to said one of said apparatuses.

19. (previously presented) An optical communication unit according to claim 14, further comprising:

a converging lens arranged in light paths of the optical signal from said one of said apparatuses to said light receiving section and the optical signal from said light emitting section to said one of said apparatuses.

20. (previously presented) An optical communication unit according to claim 14, wherein said light receiving section has a circuit that changes an available area thereof according to a communication speed of an optical signal.

21. (previously presented) An optical communication unit according to claim 14, wherein said light receiving section has a circuit that changes an available area thereof according to a transmission distance of an optical signal.

22. (previously presented) An optical communication unit according to claim 14, further comprising:

a converging lens arranged in light paths of the optical signal from said one of said apparatuses to said light receiving section and the optical signal from said light emitting section to said one of said apparatuses,

wherein said light receiving section and said light emitting section are integrated to each other.

23. (previously presented) An optical communication unit according to claim 14, wherein said light receiving section and said light emitting section are realized with one lens.

24. (currently amended) ~~An~~ A cable-side optical communication unit connectable with an apparatus-side optical communication unit provided in an apparatus and having a light transceiver section to transmit/receive an optical signal to and from the apparatus for executing communication with a communication device, the cable-side optical communication unit comprising:

an optical module to house the light transceiver section and an integrated circuit to execute communications with the apparatus-side optical communication unit, wherein the light transceiver section is connected to one of a pair of optical fiber cables to transmit the optical

signal from the optical fiber cable to the apparatus, and the light transceiver section is connected to the other pair of optical fiber cables to transmit the optical signal from said apparatus to the optical fiber;

a first converging lens attached to the optical module, to converge the optical signal transmitted by the light transceiver section and to transmit the converged optical signal to the apparatus; and

a second converging lens attached to the optical module, to converge the optical signal transmitted by the apparatus and to transmit the converged optical signal to the light transceiver section.